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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, November 8, 2012

LOCATION:

Council Chambers
Scranton City Hall
340 North Washington Avenue
Scranton, Pennsylvania

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT

FRANK JOYCE, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF

PAT ROGAN

JOHN LOSCOMBE

NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

1 (Pledge of Allegiance recited and
 2 moment of reflection observed.)
 3 MS. EVANS: Roll call, please.
 4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.
 5 MR. MCGOFF: Here.
 6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.
 7 MR. ROGAN: Here.
 8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.
 9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.
 10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.
 11 MR. JOYCE: Here.
 12 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.
 13 MS. EVANS: Here. Dispense with the
 14 reading of the minutes, please.
 15 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
 16 PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES FROM THE HARRISON
 17 HOUSE PERSONAL CARE HOME IN THE AMOUNT OF
 18 \$500.00.
 19 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
 20 If not, received and filed.
 21 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. TAX ASSESSOR'S
 22 REPORT, HEARING DATE TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER
 23 14, 2012.
 24 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
 25 If not, received and filed. Do we have any

1 clerk's notes tonight?
 2 MS. KRAKE: No, Mrs. Evans.
 3 MS. EVANS: Do any council members
 4 have announcements at this time?
 5 MR. MCGOFF: Very quickly, we
 6 received in our male the Lackawanna County
 7 Heritage Valley announces a groundbreaking
 8 for the Archbald/Jermyn trail, the newest
 9 section of that trail, that's on Monday,
 10 November 19, 2012, at 2:30 p.m. It says the
 11 Laurel Street trailhead in Archbald, so I'm
 12 assuming that they are breaking ground for
 13 the -- to put a trail connecting Archbald to
 14 Jermyn. I know they are moving in the other
 15 direction as well down through in Moosic and
 16 Taylor and Old Forge, so when this is
 17 completed it will pretty much connect the
 18 entire state. That is the grand plan, but
 19 that is the newest part of the trail to be
 20 opened and if anyone is interested as a
 21 runner and utilizing the trails at times,
 22 you know, they are great service to and
 23 great value to the community. Thank you.
 24 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
 25 anyone else?

1 MR. JOYCE: Yes. There will an
 2 apple pie sale at the Elm Park United
 3 Methodist Church, which is located at the
 4 corner of Linden Street and Jefferson
 5 Avenue, on November 17. Nine-inch homemade
 6 pies will be sold. Orders are required in
 7 advance. Regular unbaked pies will be sold
 8 for \$10 each. Unbaked pies with no sugar
 9 added, which will be made with Splenda, will
 10 be sold for \$11 each. Regular baked pies
 11 will be \$11 each and baked pies with no
 12 sugar added, which will also be made with
 13 Splenda, will be sold for \$12 each. To
 14 place an order for the pies please call
 15 342-8263 and the last date for orders will
 16 be November 13. That's all. So hurry up
 17 and order your pies if you plan on doing so.
 18 MS. EVANS: The Fraternal Order of
 19 Eagles in Scranton will conduct its annual
 20 craft fair this Saturday, November 10,
 21 beginning at 10 a.m. Various crafts and
 22 holiday items will be available for
 23 purchase. All proceeds will fund a
 24 Christmas party for foster children in our
 25 community. For additional information,

1 please call the club at 961-5495.
 2 The Mary Mother of God parish in
 3 North Scranton will hold it's annual roast
 4 beef dinner this Sunday, November 11, at
 5 Stirna's Restaurant located on West Market
 6 Street from noon to five p.m. Tickets are
 7 \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under the
 8 age of ten. Also, raffle tickets to win a
 9 customized NFL jersey will be sold. Come
 10 out and enjoy a delicious Sunday dinner with
 11 your family.
 12 St. Joseph's Malachite Catholic
 13 Church located at 130 North St. Francis
 14 Cabrini Avenue in West Scranton will conduct
 15 it's annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser on
 16 Wednesday, November 14, from 5 p.m. to 8
 17 p.m. Takeout dinners will available
 18 beginning at 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$8.50
 19 for adults, \$4 for children under the age of
 20 ten, and may be purchased at the door. Take
 21 a break from cooking and treat yourself to
 22 this tasty pasta dinner.
 23 Pizza by Pappas will hold its third
 24 annual Pancreatic Cancer Awareness
 25 fundraiser on Tuesday, November 13 and

1 Wednesday, November 14, at its restaurant
2 located at 393 North Washington Avenue in
3 downtown Scranton. 50 percent of the
4 proceeds will be donated to the Pancreatic
5 Cancer Action Network. For details call
6 346-2290 or e-mail charity at
7 PizzabyPappas.com.

8 Council would also like to thank
9 Mr. Tom Welby for his assistance this
10 evening for broadcasting live tonight's
11 meeting.

12 And finally, city council wishes to
13 congratulate Senator Bob Casey,
14 Mrs. Kathleen Kane and, of course, President
15 Barack Obama on their victories in Tuesday's
16 election, and that's it.

17 MS. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
18 PARTICIPATION.

19 MS. EVANS: Our first speaker
20 tonight is Liz Hubbard. Mrs. Hubbard is no
21 longer available. Doug Miller.

22 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.
23 Doug Miller, Scranton.

24 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

25 MR. MILLER: I'd just like to begin

1 several businesses door to door to ensure
2 that businesses are displaying their
3 business privilege tax, licenses to show
4 that they are paying the tax and they are
5 paying their fair share and obviously
6 reading it this morning it did make me ask
7 myself, you know, if we are going to go out
8 and knock on businesses why not go up the
9 street here and knock on the University's
10 door and go inside and knock on
11 Chick-Fil-A's door, knock on Starbuck's door
12 or Quizno's door and the Mexican restaurant
13 that is up there and see where their
14 licenses are. I'm sure you are not going to
15 find any because they haven't been paying
16 the business privilege tax and I think we
17 need to hold them accountable. We have lost
18 out on millions and millions of dollars for
19 decades because we have allowed them, again,
20 we have allowed them to get a free ride and
21 we haven't done anything about it.

22 Past councils who have turned a
23 blind eye to this, this administration has
24 turned a blind eye to it and I think now is
25 the time to take action on this, that as

1 once again with Engine 7 letting everyone
2 know it's still not open at this point again
3 jeopardizing the health, safety and
4 well-being of the residents in West Side.
5 And I would like to remind everyone that
6 there will be another townhall-style meeting
7 next Wednesday at 7 p.m. over at Keyser
8 Valley Community Center in regards to the
9 closure of Engine 7 and I would just like to
10 encourage all West Side residents who are
11 affected to please come out and demand that
12 the station is opened and hold Chief Tom
13 Davis and Mayor Chris Doherty accountable
14 for their actions. They have consistently
15 shown time and time again that they do not
16 care and I think they need to be put in
17 their place once and for all and that they
18 need to know we won't tolerate it and we all
19 need to come out full force and protest what
20 they have done.

21 Onto some of the issues in today's
22 paper dealing with a couple of matters, the
23 first is in regards to the Single Tax
24 Office, that we have been made aware that
25 the officials will be going around to

1 distressed city that is in jeopardy of
2 falling into bankruptcy is something we
3 don't want to see and we need the revenue
4 and we need it bad and I think now is the
5 time to go up there and hold them
6 accountable for their actions and make sure
7 they are paying their fair share and I'm
8 hopeful that this council will do that.

9 On the commuter tax, this was also
10 in the paper today, several municipalities
11 are trying to join forces together to
12 protest our proposed commuter tax. Today we
13 had Old Forge who all of a sudden now wants
14 to team up with the Mayfield mayor, I
15 believe his name is Al Chelick, in
16 challenging our commuter tax. Clarks Summit
17 in their meeting wants to now impose their
18 own commuter tax on our residents and, you
19 know, it's just becoming quite frustrating
20 at this point. As you know, I am support of
21 the commuter tax and I understand it's not a
22 likeable tax, and I'm not complaining to be
23 in favor of taxes, believe me, I wish we
24 didn't have to have them at all, but it's
25 part of reality and it is what it is. It's

1 part of our recovery plan and we are asking
 2 to pay your fair share.
 3 Old Forge all of a sudden now they
 4 want to challenge it, they want to make an
 5 issue, you know, it's quite frankly
 6 frustrating that all of these municipalities
 7 are just all coming out of the woodwork in
 8 opposition to it. You are utilizing our
 9 roads, our bridges, our public safety each
 10 and every day by your residents coming into
 11 our community, and we are asking you to
 12 contribute to it. If you have an Old Forge
 13 resident who works in Downtown Scranton and
 14 God forbid a tragedy would occur, a fire or
 15 we need an engine to respond or one of our
 16 police officers to respond, who is paying
 17 for that? We are. All we are asking is for
 18 their residents to contribute a small fee to
 19 that. I find it only to be fair. You are
 20 utilizing our essential services, there is
 21 no reason why you can't contribute a small
 22 fee to that. It's not fair to our taxpayers
 23 who contribute to it and let them come in
 24 and get a free ride. It's for three years.
 25 That's all we are asking.

1 And, you know, Clarks Summit wanting
 2 to enact their own commuter tax, let them
 3 enact it if that's what they feel they want
 4 to do, but as a Clarks Summit councilwoman
 5 stated they feel that we are punishing their
 6 residents. It's not a punishment, it's
 7 paying their fair share. That's all this
 8 is. It's not political. If you want to
 9 enact a commuter tax go right ahead you've
 10 had plenty time, you could have done it
 11 years ago. What's stopping you? Go ahead,
 12 do it. But we are not making it political.
 13 We are not pushing you. It's your fair
 14 share. That's what it is, it's paying your
 15 fair share and that's what we talked about
 16 with the nonprofits and that's all we are
 17 asking on the commuters, we don't need to
 18 make this a political issue and that's all
 19 for tonight. Thank you.
 20 MS. EVANS: Lee Morgan.
 21 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.
 22 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.
 23 MS. EVANS: Good evening.
 24 MR. MORGAN: Can somebody tell me
 25 the status of my Right-to-Knows. I did some

1 Right-to-Know requests in regard to council
 2 and they were sent down to council and I was
 3 trying to figure out if somebody can tell me
 4 where they stand?
 5 MS. EVANS: I'm not aware.
 6 MS. KRAKE: They were sent to
 7 council -- if I may, Mrs. Evans?
 8 MS. EVANS: Yes, certainly.
 9 MS. KRAKE: They were forwarded to
 10 council from the business administrator who
 11 is the Right-to-Know officer. They do not
 12 fall into the Right-to-Know guidelines as
 13 far as what the requests were. If Mr.
 14 Morgan would like to come into the council
 15 office I can discuss that with him and
 16 provide him with information that would fall
 17 into the Right-to-Know guidelines and maybe
 18 perhaps answer the underlying questions
 19 within his request.
 20 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mrs. Krake.
 21 MR. MORGAN: Okay, because I am
 22 going to follow-up on that, but I think
 23 those were the two most important questions
 24 that any resident could ask in this city or
 25 people opposed to the commuter tax outside

1 of the city. It's important to know what
 2 happened to these sections of the Home Rule
 3 Charter and if they were or weren't used,
 4 and I think it's time for the government to
 5 stop hiding behind what we have a right to
 6 know on what we don't have a right to know,
 7 because I think the people outside of city
 8 are most certainly correct in opposing the
 9 commuter tax.
 10 The obligations of Scranton city
 11 government were to protect it's residents
 12 and provide services and make sure that the
 13 government was functioning the way it should
 14 function. Now, some people have come here
 15 and asked that, made statements regarding
 16 people coming to visit our city. Well, as
 17 far as I know there is lots of funds that
 18 come in for paving roads and maintenance of
 19 bridges and state funding, federal funding
 20 and, you know, you have to ask yourself, you
 21 know, in my own personal opinion with all of
 22 this borrowing be able to sustain it, to be
 23 real honest with you, you know. A judge can
 24 sit at the hearing and determine if he is
 25 going to let the city borrow unfunded debt.

1 To be real honest with you, I think
 2 everybody can see what's occurring in this
 3 city. It's just a total lack of political
 4 leadership, not today but for decades, and
 5 now what we are saying to people outside of
 6 the city is, well, we only need a little bit
 7 of your money. And, you know, you have to
 8 ask yourself, you know, on the national
 9 level, you know, with the election that's
 10 taken place and now them taking about the
 11 fiscal cliff that the nation is in I think
 12 we haven't been served very well by the
 13 political people we have elected. To be
 14 bluntly honest, they have done a terrible
 15 job. I mean, the fiasco federally is 40
 16 cents of every dollar has been borrowed.
 17 The city, well, I don't know how far we are
 18 along that line, but I can tell you that we
 19 have siphoned every bit of wealth out of
 20 this city we could pull out of it, and then
 21 we have a council that talks about
 22 nonprofits and in my opinion, look at the
 23 junior high school and look at Scranton
 24 Lace. They are not going to any benefit fit
 25 to the city and that's my contention because

1 when you invest money it gives you a return.
 2 We are trying to salvage buildings and it's
 3 great to salvage a building, but we are
 4 losing whole neighborhoods. We can all talk
 5 about many of the issues and we get no
 6 resolution from council on hardly anything.
 7 In my opinion, I see the council as
 8 a borrow and spend instrument, an instrument
 9 to hold the residents of this city hostage
 10 for more tax revenue, for a conduit for
 11 special interests. Big money flowing
 12 through council for special projects and
 13 special people, but the average people in
 14 this city they are earning minimum wage and
 15 then we turn around and we blame Austin
 16 Burke or the Scranton Times, and to be
 17 honest with you, that's not where the blame
 18 lies.
 19 Now, the council has the power of
 20 subpoena and investigation, that's what I
 21 would like to know. I'd like to know how
 22 many investigations and how many subpoenas
 23 council has done since the 70's, not just
 24 this council, but all councils. How many
 25 special investigations have we had? I think

1 -- I just think it's really a terrible thing
 2 when you have a hard time getting
 3 information from your government.
 4 Now, maybe it doesn't fall under the
 5 Right-to-Know laws, so then maybe I'll have
 6 to go to the Court of Common Pleas and ask
 7 them for the right to get this information,
 8 but you know something? When you tax
 9 residents and you tax their property and you
 10 borrow and you borrow and you borrow, you
 11 know, it's nice to talk about things taking
 12 place in the community, but you know
 13 something, sooner or later the way things
 14 are going we won't have a community. I grew
 15 up here with over 100,000 people, we are
 16 down to a little near 70,000. Thanks for
 17 your time.
 18 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Gerard
 19 Hetman.
 20 MR. HETMAN: Good evening, Council.
 21 MS. EVANS: Good evening.
 22 MR. HETMAN: Gerard Hetman from the
 23 Lackawanna County Department of Community
 24 Relations. To begin this evening, the
 25 franchise currently known as the

1 Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Wilkes-Barre Yankees
 2 be hosting the big reveal event this coming
 3 Wednesday November 14, from 5:30 p.m. to
 4 8:30 p.m. at Genetti Manor, 1505 North Main
 5 Avenue in Dickson City with a line "Come
 6 one, come all, let's have a ball." And this
 7 is the event, if you notice I said the
 8 franchise currently known as, this is the
 9 event where the franchise will reveal their
 10 new name, the colors, and the logo, new
 11 mascot, etcetera, etcetera, basically the
 12 whole branding to use a marketing term will
 13 be revealed to the public at this event
 14 which will feature food, games, live
 15 entertainment, face painting, caricatures,
 16 inflatables and a whole bunch of other
 17 carnival-type attractions and events at this
 18 particular event and the chance for the
 19 community to come out and be a part of the
 20 revealing of the new identity of our local
 21 franchise. As a community, everyone is
 22 welcome.
 23 And I can say from having been
 24 involved with local sports teams and having
 25 been to a number of team announcement events

1 where names or players and the announcement
2 of the franchise in various capacities I
3 have rarely seen an event like this where
4 the public is invited to share in a big
5 moment in local sports history and in local
6 commerce and local infrastructure, it's
7 really something unique. Most of the time
8 you turn the TV on the 5:00 news or you open
9 the news paper the next day and, oh, there
10 is a new sports team coming. Oh, the sports
11 team signed a new person. This is something
12 a little bit different and open to the
13 community so everyone is invited next
14 Wednesday, November 14, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at
15 Genetti's to find out whatever the name of
16 the new team is. I have no idea.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Hetman, may I just
18 interrupt?

19 MR. HETMAN: Yes.

20 MR. MCGOFF: If they choose Trolley
21 Frogs, I promise you that I will never buy a
22 ticket to see this team.

23 MR. HETMAN: We'll see what happens.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Trolley Frogs was being
25 suggested.

1 MR. HETMAN: I have no insider
2 information. I can neither confirm or deny
3 what the name is about.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

5 MR. HETMAN: We'll have to see on
6 Wednesday. The second item I do actually
7 have a letter on that I can give to
8 council's office, but I would like to share
9 with you about this program, which is from
10 the Lackawanna County Children and Youth
11 Services agency regarding their annual angel
12 program which assists children who are under
13 the care of Lackawanna County Children and
14 Youth to have a memorable Christmas and
15 enjoy Christmas by providing Christmas gifts
16 to children under their care. Last year the
17 program actually assisted more than 1,000
18 children in Scranton and Lackawanna County
19 in providing Christmas gifts to those
20 children who otherwise may not have a
21 Christmas to remember or Christmas to enjoy
22 in the same capacity.

23 So the program is run through the
24 Lackawanna County Children and Youth office
25 and the two contacts, just to make you

1 aware, Gloria Liuzzo, who can be contacted
2 at 570-963-6781, extension 1301, or Lisa
3 Sohara, 570-963-6781, extension 188, and
4 normally they ask for a contribution of
5 approximately \$100 to take care of the gifts
6 and Christmas cheer for each child, but they
7 have modified the program in recent years so
8 that citizens and also community groups,
9 whether it be a church group, civic
10 organization, school group, can contribute
11 as a group or individuals or groups can
12 contribute any amount of funding or you can
13 contribute toys, new unwrapped toys to the
14 program, however people want to chip in.
15 It's flexible and accessible too all.

16 So I do have a letter regarding that
17 that will I will give to Mrs. Krake or Ms.
18 Marciano after the meeting and you can share
19 it with anyone in the community you know who
20 may be willing or looking for a good way to
21 participate in serving the community this
22 holiday season. So that's all I have for
23 this evening. Thank you for your time.

24 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
25 anyone else?

1 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
2 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians,
3 from your literature here you are planning
4 to borrow \$40 million this year? What are
5 we getting for this \$40 million that you
6 planning to borrow? Tell me, is this a
7 portion of the 203-A? What portion are we
8 paying with that \$20 million, what portion
9 of the "B"? What portion of the "C"? No
10 where did I say you were recalling any of
11 that so what are we getting for this \$40
12 million? Debt ran up by previous mayors and
13 councils. This doesn't make sense.

14 I don't know exactly how we got into
15 the position we have to borrow \$40 million.
16 I know I made a stink when they borrowed the
17 \$72 million, but at least I got a couple of
18 buildings sitting there that they used the
19 money for. I wasn't happy with the light
20 fixtures, but that's the way life goes.
21 Does anybody know what portion of these A,
22 B, C, D 73 we're paying?

23 I didn't see anything become
24 recalling the bonds and borrowing money to
25 pay off the bonds, hopefully we can get them

1 at a lower rate. I don't understand exactly
2 what you are trying to do other than borrow
3 40 million, and I don't know what affect
4 that's going to have on our tax rate. I
5 just want to ask if you know exactly what it
6 would be.

7 MS. EVANS: Mr. Sbaraglia, I'm going
8 to address some of that under motions
9 tonight and it will be further explained at
10 next week's meeting.

11 MR. SBARAGALIA: You are going to go
12 in debt, right? In debt. You are not going
13 to give a blanket thing, in other words, you
14 are going to say we are paying off the
15 interest and actually so much of the debt?
16 When you say portion that doesn't mean much.
17 The portion can be anything, like, you put a
18 portion of cream into your coffee. We want
19 exactly what's going on.

20 Now, the other debt, I guess the
21 nine million, let's go with rounding off the
22 nine million, that's what we are paying off
23 the unfunded debt that was built up this
24 year, last year, so forth. At least we
25 understand that. You had a 12 percent tax

1 increase for one portion of it, now you are
2 up for a second portion of it. That
3 interest rate, what was it, 8.9, isn't very
4 favorable to anything. You would be better
5 off with -- way, way better off trying to
6 get a bond issue to cover every darn thing
7 even if you borrow 60 million at least you
8 got 20 years to pay it off or 30 years.
9 These bonds you want to pay off in ten?

10 At ten years that's like \$4 million
11 per issue. You got the \$1 million for the
12 bond the payment and then you got another
13 almost a million in interest on the one bond
14 that's two. On the second bond that would
15 be another two, which would be in the
16 neighborhood of \$4 million that we are
17 paying for off for the next ten years.
18 That's \$40 million over them 10 years. That
19 effects the tax rate.

20 I wish I had the audit I can give
21 you a presentation complete on it if I had
22 the figures in front of me, but you don't
23 have it in front of you and we don't have it
24 in front of me. That's the problem with
25 this city and you don't realize you have

1 been sandbagged on that audit for so long
2 because they don't want us to -- that's why
3 you were in trouble to begin with. If you
4 had them audits in the very beginning when
5 you were making out our dear tax base you
6 wouldn't have had all of that. You wouldn't
7 have had 8.9 million in unfunded for a year.

8 Now, that's the second year we had
9 the same thing and I guess it would be in
10 the third year, too, except in 19 -- I mean,
11 2013 is even going to be worse. I don't
12 know exactly what's going on, but when you
13 talk about unfunded debt and paying off a
14 portion of bond issues you tell the people
15 what portion of that bond issue is being
16 paid off and how much is left to be paid off
17 and at what period of time we got to pay it
18 off and other than that we are going to sink
19 into the abyss. I keep saying it, we are
20 sinking into that abyss. Thank you.

21 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
22 anyone else?

23 MR. TALIMINI: Joe Talimini, City of
24 Scranton. I've been a political junkie for
25 over 70 years now and I want to say one

1 thing about this past election, I worked
2 East Mountain and think we had better than a
3 70 percent turnout and I was absolutely
4 amazed at how great these people were up
5 there.

6 I also would like to tell the
7 council that you have been a recipient of
8 many commendations from those people. They
9 said they are very, very pleased with the
10 decorum of this council, the way things are
11 conducted, etcetera, etcetera, etcetera.
12 However, two incidents did arise which I
13 think are worthy of note.

14 Number one, Mr. Rogan, I would like
15 to address this to you as well. There were
16 at least eight people who came to me during
17 the course of the day. Their relatives were
18 disenfranchised from voting because they
19 have been working on Sandy out-of-state,
20 could not get back in. There was no
21 provision for them to vote. Now, they were
22 told either by PPL or by the contractor they
23 were working for that they could vote in New
24 Jersey or New York, which is where they were
25 working, they were not allowed to vote on

1 the Pennsylvania ballot, which I explained
2 to them that's inconceivable that you would
3 be allowed to vote a Pennsylvania ballot in
4 New Jersey or New York, but I think some
5 provision should be there.

6 This was a unique situation, I
7 realize that. Some provision should be
8 available in the voting act that would allow
9 these people to vote in an emergency like
10 that. They are first responders, there is
11 no question about that. They went over and
12 above what they are expected to do. They
13 were working out-of-state because there is
14 no way they could get back. Their relatives
15 came up to me and asked if there is anything
16 I can do about it and I said I can't do
17 anything at all. The election rules are the
18 election rules, but there should be some
19 provision in the election law that says
20 these people could cast an emergency
21 absentee ballot if necessary somewhere along
22 the line.

23 I would like this council to go
24 ahead, I've already addressed the subject
25 with the Lackawanna County Commissioners, I

1 would like this council to submit a letter
2 to the state asking for some kind of
3 provision to be made in a situation like
4 this, even though it's unique and probably
5 will never happen again, but if it does they
6 people should not be disenfranchised by
7 working out of state on an emergency
8 situation. And, I mean, for them to send
9 their relatives up to ask that shows you
10 they were really dedicated people. That's
11 number one.

12 Number two, I was also apprised of
13 the fact that the firehouse we were working
14 at on East Mountain Road is in service, but
15 because of the present situation with
16 traffic they really have a problem. They
17 cannot come across the Harrison Avenue
18 bridge as you know, now they cannot come
19 down Moosic Street, which means that there
20 are -- I don't know how much more response
21 time it would take, Mr. Loscombe could
22 probably address that, but for them to make
23 a circuitous route to go over to a fire
24 outside of their area it's ridiculous.

25 There has got to be some kind of

1 provision made. I don't know what the
2 answer is. I'm not a fireman, I don't know
3 what the answer is, but I know I heard from
4 several firemen that they were really,
5 really concerned about this situation. So
6 whether it's keeping other firehouses open
7 or what, but it's a hazard there is no
8 question about that.

9 And another thing, I would like to
10 commend a couple of people who did work the
11 polls this year, they were novices, but they
12 came up and worked. One gentlemen who lives
13 on Archer Street, he is the father of six
14 small children, and he took his time and
15 went up and worked that poll from 6:30 in
16 the morning until 9:00 in the evening. And
17 another young lady, who happens to be a
18 waitress, on her day off went up and worked
19 another poll. I mean, there are dedicated
20 people in this town, not very many of them.
21 As you know, I've always been complaining
22 about the apathy of the voters in this town,
23 but I can honestly say that I was surprised,
24 I was very pleasantly surprised.

25 And also, once again, I would like

1 say that they did compliment ECTV and their
2 coverage of these meetings, and I don't know
3 how many people watch ECTV, but apparently
4 there is an awful lot of people out there
5 and not only have Scranton, but from Clarks
6 Summit, they are from places I have never
7 even heard of in Pennsylvania, but they do
8 watch ECTV. So if there is any funding
9 that's being held up I wish you people would
10 reconsider and make sure that the funding
11 gets to them because they are doing one good
12 job.

13 And again, compliments to the
14 council, this is not from me, from the
15 voters, they think the decorum here is
16 exceptionally fine and thank you.

17 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

18 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.
19 Dave Dobrzyn.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

21 MR. DOBRZYN: Resident of the city.
22 Also, I noticed on 6-D it has been my
23 understanding that the \$178 does not
24 entirely cover trash removal, and I have a
25 question as to whether tax exempts could be

1 charged extra money due to the fact that
2 they do not pay property tax or trash
3 removal. If there is millions of dollars
4 being required to the DPW, I went through
5 subsidized trash removal, it's \$178 per
6 household and then perhaps they should be
7 paying more because they are certainly not
8 paying property tax.

9 Once again, it's not your issue, but
10 the school district has a shortfall, and my
11 advice that they should start repairing
12 schools and instead of building new ones and
13 maybe their finances will improve.

14 And somebody from the DPW asked me
15 to make a mention there is a leaf removal
16 this week instead of papers. Pat, is that
17 this week? That's my understanding that --

18 MR. ROGAN: I saw trucks out the
19 other day.

20 MR. JOYCE: It's my understanding
21 that it is.

22 MR. DOBRZYN: So don't put your
23 papers out and leave them laying there for
24 two weeks because some people -- like some
25 people do. And I have a question will the

1 colleges oppose property tax on the business
2 taxes -- taxable businesses within their
3 borders such as restaurants and so forth? I
4 mean, they are opposing the parking tax, so,
5 you know, that's a basically a private
6 business situation practically. And once
7 again I'd like to see them zoned in and if
8 they want to expand any further than they
9 can pay them the whole enchilada.

10 And I also have a question, I have
11 been reading in the paper if anybody could
12 find out our medical school is constantly on
13 some type of probation because -- and they
14 negotiated with the University and the
15 negotiations seem to fall through and, I
16 mean, this is an instance where the
17 University could be a great help to the city
18 because we have a medical school on academic
19 probation, constantly their need to
20 affiliate with the University and see that
21 we have one a few blocks away I don't see
22 what the problem is. I certainly hope it's
23 not ideologic.

24 And on this bond issue, I'd like to
25 see some -- I'm going to keep an open mind

1 and not going to comment on that greatly
2 this week, but an itemization of exactly
3 what bills are to be paid off so they do get
4 paid off and whoever is going to manage the
5 money is locked in to paying off and using
6 the money that they do. What it was
7 designated for and not shipping money back
8 and forth.

9 It's concerning when we start
10 borrowing that high of a rating and amount
11 of money, and also keeping in mind that
12 these banks are being handed, major banks
13 are being handed government -- or money from
14 the government, the federal reserve, and
15 every time they downgrade our credit rating
16 they make all of the more money on the
17 interest and it's really ashamed because
18 three or four years ago they were on their
19 way to extinction because the government
20 didn't bail them out. We have got nothing
21 for the average city from this bail out. We
22 have gotten no where. They get handed money
23 at 1 percent or a fraction of a percent or
24 whatever and then they turn around and they
25 want to charge us an ungodly rate, like 8 or

1 9 percent. I mean, what are they afraid of
2 what they are going to pack our city up and
3 move somewhere else? Come on. We are not
4 going anywhere.

5 And the golden parrot, the election,
6 I have some information for some people,
7 money can't buy you love. US Chamber of
8 Commerce, Carl Roach, save your money the
9 next time.

10 And I agree with Joe Talimini, it
11 struck me that we should have in
12 Pennsylvania an absentee ballot for any
13 person that has to work. I used to drive
14 500 miles a week to work and back and forth
15 and I was packing my tools up and rushing
16 home just to get in on the last half hour of
17 voting. If there was a line there, which
18 there wasn't because it was a little rural
19 town, I would have lost the opportunity
20 possibly to vote, so it's really time that
21 we change -- I read through the Federal
22 Labor Standards Act and some states they
23 release you -- that your employer has to
24 release you for an hour or two or what have
25 you, but here in Pennsylvania there is

1 nothing, supposed to be that the start of
 2 the democracy, so thank you and have a good
 3 night and for all of these big
 4 contributions, thousands of suitcases full
 5 of \$20 bills, bawk, bawk, bawk, money don't
 6 buy you love. Have a good night.

7 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

8 MR. DOBRZYN: Oh, and
 9 congratulations, Pat, I guess you did pretty
 10 good the other day?

11 MR. ROGAN: Yesterday. Thank you.

12 MR. JOYCE: Is there anyone else who
 13 would like to address council?

14 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Frankie.

15 MR. JOYCE: Hey, Chrissy.

16 Mr. SLEDENZSKI: Jack, you handsome
 17 devil, you.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Where is your hat
 19 tonight?

20 MR. SLEDENZSKI: What's up, Jackie?
 21 Jack, for two weeks that it as open, Engine
 22 7, somebody told me it opened yesterday. I
 23 heard down there. Back open I heard.
 24 That's what I have been hearing. Yeah. Hey
 25 Frank, next week, buddy, football, what do

1 you think? What do you think? Who do you
 2 think? I hope Scranton wins and Abington,
 3 too. Good luck.

4 MR. JOYCE: Thanks, Chrissy. Is
 5 there anyone else would like to address
 6 council?

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,
 8 Council. Marie Schumacher, resident and
 9 taxpayer.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

11 MS. SCHUMACHER: I'm glad to see
 12 that "Wiley Wascal" with the bowtie down
 13 there that he came back because he promised
 14 me some information tonight do you have it?

15 MR. MCGOFF: Yes and no. I'll say
 16 yes and no. I did get the answers from
 17 rental registration and I wrote them down
 18 and I should have put them on my hand or my
 19 forehead because I left -- but I can give
 20 you sort of a synopsis and then I'll give
 21 get you the --

22 MS. SCHUMACHER: Did they -- go
 23 ahead.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Right now the total
 25 number of -- the total number of properties

1 in the database is around 1,400, increased
 2 from the original by about 100 or more. The
 3 total collections up to this point are at
 4 about \$40,000 which only -- which is still,
 5 and again, I'm trying to remember what was
 6 given to me, I believe there is still
 7 somewhere around 70 percent of the
 8 properties that have not responded.

9 Now, I will say that the day I was
 10 in talking to Mr. Seitzinger about it on his
 11 desk he showed me that they had, you know,
 12 there were three letters that they had
 13 received with the rental registration, you
 14 know, revenues included, so it is being
 15 actively pursued. The gentlemen that's been
 16 doing the rental registration is out every
 17 day trying to improve the database -- and
 18 please hold Mrs. Schumacher's time I know
 19 I'm talking too much, but they are actively
 20 working at it, and as for other info --

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah, as I say, the
 22 richest source would be go to the county and
 23 ask for that list of people who are billed
 24 at an address different than the taxable
 25 property, and that still has not been done?

1 MR. MCGOFF: Apparently not.

2 MS. SCHUMACHER: Apparently not.
 3 That really makes you wonder.

4 MR. MCGOFF: And again, just a quick
 5 response, we did -- I did talk to the
 6 gentlemen with rental registration and we
 7 did talk about a mass mailing based on the
 8 assessment, you know, from the assessment --

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Did anybody contact
 10 the Sewer Authority who has the person who
 11 was out?

12 MR. MCGOFF: That I did not ask
 13 that.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Good, he is
 15 back, I don't have to go out of order. Do
 16 we have the loan -- the loan list from OECD
 17 tonight and how many are on it or how many
 18 are delinquent?

19 MR. ROGAN: I have two e-mails I
 20 received from Linda, I didn't get a chance,
 21 I was on vacation all last week. I'll get
 22 back to you tomorrow morning on that, I'll
 23 send you an e-mail, and if I didn't receive
 24 it I will contact her.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: What about the

1 Pizano Partnership, did you find out whether
2 that was part of the guarantee that -- those
3 properties that are on the market were part
4 of the guarantee for the quarter of a
5 million dollar no interest loan?

6 MR. ROGAN: Again, I was sifting
7 through the e-mails, I do know I have three
8 replies from Linda, but I didn't get that
9 far down the chain yet.

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: Oh, okay.
11 Mr. Joyce, could you explain to me why you
12 are counting on only \$2 1/2 million in
13 commuter tax next year and then \$4 million
14 in each of the following years? What's
15 different?

16 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Actually this was
17 an issue that was brought up by PEL as well,
18 in the first year they explained to me that
19 collections were usually slow being that the
20 tax is new, the people have to get into the
21 mode of paying it and also that the last
22 quarter most likely wouldn't be collected
23 until the following year, which would
24 translate into \$3 million, but to be on the
25 safe side it would -- PEL suggested that

1 \$2.5 million would be realized.

2 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, and then what
3 fills the hole in 2016 beyond that, that \$4
4 million hole when the commuter tax goes
5 away?

6 MR. JOYCE: Well, at that point we
7 would have to see where we are and address
8 the situation at that point, but right now
9 at this point there is no source of revenue
10 that would fill that hole after the recovery
11 plan is -- after the recovery --

12 MS. SCHUMACHER: The three year. I
13 really wish you had done five, but you
14 didn't so -- okay, and then what is the
15 status of the city's classification change?
16 Where is that now and how many more wickets
17 do they have to go through before we become
18 a city of the third class?

19 MR. JOYCE: I would have to defer to
20 Attorney Hughes for that information.

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: Santa Clause is
22 making a list and checking it twice.

23 MR. HUGHES: Three times. There is
24 nothing being done on that.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Whose ball

1 is -- whose court is the ball in or just
2 nothing on either side? Nothing?

3 MR. HUGHES: There is nothing on
4 either side right now.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Oh, okay. And then
6 last week I was remiss, I meant to talk --
7 start off by thanking the DPW because when
8 we had all of that rain they were out doing
9 the streets to get the leaves off so that
10 gutters didn't -- and the storm drains
11 weren't blocked and they were out early and
12 they did a great job.

13 And then with respect to the
14 basketball or the baseball team, after
15 looking at this list I would go with none of
16 the above personally. Thank you. See you
17 next week.

18 MR. JOYCE: Thank you very much.

19 MR. MARTIN: Bob Martin. Bob
20 Martin, 420 Adams Avenue. First I want to
21 talk about the engine company. There have
22 been many people talking about Engine 7
23 being closed. Well, Engine 4 has been
24 closed a lot of times, too. They got a
25 scanner, I don't know, John, maybe you can

1 answer this, Engine 4 has been browned out
2 but they have been in service sometimes I
3 think I have been hearing on the scanner
4 that they have Engine 4, but they are not
5 full, they still have their times when they
6 are --

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, that's correct.

8 MR. MARTIN: -- they are still being
9 browned out. You know, I just wish, and you
10 know, I was talking Janet before she came
11 in, I just wish we could have, you know,
12 those engine companies open all the time
13 because, like you said, we can have as many
14 trucks there, but if you don't have the
15 engine companies it ain't going to matter.

16 But, you know, somebody had brought
17 that up about the -- you know, Engine 10,
18 and that's going to cause a problem because
19 that Spruce Street complex the -- if I had
20 heard right that might not be fixed until
21 between either March or June of next year.
22 I mean, that -- I don't know if they ever
23 caught that truck, but I'll tell you, they
24 did -- oh, they really ruined that bridge
25 real bad and, you know, the engine companies

1 are not allowed to go over Harrison, I know
2 they are going to be fixing Harrison Avenue
3 bridge, what 2014 or something like that or
4 is that the truth?

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Well, I think the
6 plans are complete and everything and
7 hopefully it will be started next year. I
8 think they were waiting until the Mulberry
9 Street corridor was completed, so to
10 alleviate some of that traffic. We can't
11 drive the fire trucks over there.

12 MR. MARTIN: Right. I'm happy that
13 all of these new lights are going up and I
14 talked about, you know, I don't know, you
15 know those big little things that they have
16 on top where people are saying that they are
17 going to be taking your picture, but I think
18 I was talking to somebody they are mostly
19 for the synchronization to keep the lights
20 going.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Correct.

22 MR. MARTIN: And I heard once they
23 get everything in there, you know, that they
24 will have all of those lights at work
25 because I'll tell you I was downtown and

1 right where the Colts buses and, boy, they
2 had everything blocked up, all of those
3 things that have to be done.

4 You mentioned about the nonprofits,
5 I know Attorney Hughes was talking about
6 this at one time, the schools that are
7 closed now, okay, there, Bishop Hannon and
8 stuff, if I ain't mistaken in order for them
9 to be considered taxable they have to be
10 closed at least a year. Is that true,
11 Attorney Hughes?

12 MR HUGHES: That's what I
13 understand, one year.

14 MR. MARTIN: One year, because I
15 know Bishop Hannon was closed for awhile,
16 you know, I think we need to, you know, go
17 after that and make up a list and go after
18 and, you know, the taxes and I think and
19 it's just money, money that could be made.

20 Another thing I want to talk about,
21 I know this is an old issue, did they still
22 ever have plans to -- you know the old
23 railroad, you know how they wanted to open
24 up that railroad station, you know, before
25 you go over the bridge? You know, I think

1 Mr. Donahue was involved in it and then
2 there was a problem, is there anything going
3 on with that at all, do you know? You
4 haven't heard anything, right?

5 MS. EVANS: No, not heard anything
6 in a very long time.

7 MR. MARTIN: Because really it's an
8 eyesore, you know, but I just wanted to
9 mention that.

10 And finally, I would like to wish
11 Scranton High School good luck in the
12 playoffs, even though I wish West Side was
13 in there, I'm a big West Sider, but at
14 least, I mean, they went undefeated. I
15 really think they have a good shot of taking
16 the state. And again, good luck to Scranton
17 High School. Thank you very much.

18 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
19 anyone else who cares to address council?

20 MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.

21 MS. EVANS: Councilman McGoff, do
22 you have any comments or motions?

23 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, please. First of
24 all, a couple of people that congratulations
25 in the election to, our local legislators I

1 believe -- well, first Kevin Haggerty, Marty
2 Flynn and I believe that Mr. Sid Michaels
3 Kavulich also represents part of the City of
4 Scranton. Not him or that wasn't changed?
5 Okay, but anyhow, congratulations to them.

6 MS. EVANS: If I could interrupt, as
7 you began I realized I left someone out
8 earlier and that would have been Matt
9 Cartwright.

10 MR. MCGOFF: That was next on the
11 list.

12 MS. EVANS: For Congress and we give
13 him our hearty congratulations as well.

14 MR. MCGOFF: And then also I think
15 that we should congratulate Representative
16 Barletta and also Mr. Rogan that he will
17 keep a job in the next four years.

18 MR. ROGAN: Two years.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Two years, I'm sorry,
20 but, yes, congratulations to all of the
21 people in the election, and I just would
22 like to make one comment, elections seem to
23 have become -- have gotten away from
24 political ideologies and have come more
25 about demonizing your opponent in the

1 process and I think it's a sad commentary on
 2 where elections have gone and where
 3 political process has gone, and I'll put in
 4 a plug, I think one of the things that we
 5 really need to do is to reintroduce civics
 6 education into our schools system because I
 7 think that that was taken out and less
 8 emphasize placed on it at least in my
 9 teaching career the emphasize was removed,
 10 but I think it's something that we really
 11 need to look into and to reintroduce so that
 12 we can get back to the type of political
 13 process that we all want and desire.

14 On the baseball team, I did make a
 15 joke about the name, but having been an
 16 original ticket holder, season ticket
 17 holder, and having also worked at the
 18 stadium in the past I am glad to see that
 19 the team, whatever the name is, is
 20 transforming itself back to a more fan
 21 friendly environment. I think that was
 22 lacking in the last few years and driven
 23 away a number of people, but I'm happy to
 24 see that the community is being involved in
 25 the process and hopefully the return of the

1 Scranton Wilkes-Barre team will be a huge
 2 success and attendance will go up. I will
 3 say, I have enjoyed my association with the
 4 team in the past and I think it's great for
 5 the community, for the area, and hopefully
 6 this is a success of sort of the second
 7 go-around with the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre AAA
 8 franchise.

9 Next, on the agenda tonight is the
 10 appointment to the zoning board. I would
 11 just like to take a brief moment to explain
 12 a little bit the process that we went
 13 through to arrive at that. It certainly was
 14 a little bit different than what we had
 15 done -- what has been done in the past. We
 16 received I believe it was seven letters of
 17 interest from people who -- seven letter
 18 from people who were interested in going
 19 onto the zoning board to fulfill the
 20 unexpired term of Mr. Wilson, and Mrs. Evans
 21 asked if I would review those, and I did,
 22 and I contacted the other members of
 23 council, suggested two names to everyone.
 24 The consensus, the best consensus that was
 25 received was the approval of all members of

1 council for Mrs. Wardell's appointment to
 2 that position. I think that the process
 3 that we used in doing this is a much better
 4 way of appointing people. The zoning board
 5 I believe is the only entity to which we
 6 have that opportunity. In the past it has
 7 been sort of just a selection by one member
 8 of council and approved by everyone else. I
 9 just thought that this process offered more
 10 input of all members of the council and
 11 perhaps it's something we can look at for
 12 future appointments to the zoning board.

13 But I would like to prematurely
 14 congratulate Mrs. Wardell on her
 15 appointment. I believe that we will get
 16 consent on her appointment to the zoning
 17 board. She is a very concerned citizen and
 18 I'm sure that she will do a great job in
 19 that position.

20 Next, I would like to -- we received
 21 something about Comcast and it was brought
 22 up by one of the speakers, I guess I'm
 23 uncertain as to what the status of our
 24 contract with Comcast is at this time. I
 25 know it was a back and forth thing and then

1 it just seemed to, I don't know, disappear.

2 MR. HUGHES: I still don't think
 3 it's executed.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Another thing that is
 5 probably in limbo somewhere.

6 MR. HUGHES: I don't know if it's
 7 ever been executed. I know there was some
 8 revisions to it and I don't believe it's
 9 ever been executed.

10 MS. EVANS: That's correct.

11 MR. MCGOFF: So we are still
 12 operating under the prior agreement.

13 MS. EVANS: That's correct.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Maybe that's -- I
 15 realize that we have been dealing with any
 16 number of issues, but perhaps as we move
 17 forward in 2013 and the budget maybe it's
 18 something that we can reopen and sort of
 19 I'll say renegotiate something, you know,
 20 that's acceptable to all. I think it's
 21 something that really needs to be done.

22 And lastly, a mention was made of
 23 Chief Davis maybe the last couple of weeks,
 24 I will say I'm a friend of Chief Tom Davis
 25 and I just think that he is being

1 misrepresented when people say that he has
2 no concern for this city and for the welfare
3 of the people in the city. You may disagree
4 with his operation of the fire department,
5 that's fine, but to question -- to question
6 his concern for the City of Scranton, this
7 is a man that has spent his adult life
8 basically running into burning buildings and
9 has been highly decorated for it and I think
10 that any statement that he has no concern
11 for this city or the people in it is a
12 misrepresentation of what his life has been
13 and any other things I'll discuss during
14 legislation. Thank you.

15 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Councilman
16 Rogan, do you have any comments or motions?

17 MR. ROGAN: Yes, thank you. And,
18 Mrs. Evans and Mr. McGoff thanked all the
19 candidates that ran, but a big thanks go to
20 the voters. Voter turnout was at record
21 high for Democrats, Republicans and
22 Independents all across the country, which
23 is great to see. I know Mr. Talimini
24 mentioned he believes it was around 70
25 percent, I think we all look for the day

1 when we see 100 percent turnout in the
2 election and that's what's great about our
3 country we get to select our own leaders and
4 there is many other people across the world
5 that wish that they had the privilege.

6 A few things that I would like to
7 discuss tonight. The first one, and I
8 usually try to not to bring up newspaper
9 articles too much, but this one did rub me
10 the wrong way. As you know, city council
11 did ask the county commissioners to extend
12 the discount period for taxpayers by one
13 month, and it was brought up by myself and
14 others at last week's meeting, and
15 apparently Commissioner Wansack didn't like
16 my statement. So the headline in the paper
17 was, "County Blasts City Over Tax Discount
18 Comments."

19 Now, just to quote what was said in
20 the paper, it says, "Discount. Rogan and
21 Wansack jab over help." Commissioner
22 Wansack, who we have a difference of opinion
23 on this issue of extending the tax break, I
24 never had a problem with Mr. Wansack
25 personally, but his quote is, "My problem is

1 with Pat."

2 Well, that's fine, but it's not a
3 personal battle here, what we are trying to
4 -- we are trying to help our taxpayers. He
5 goes onto say, "When he is saying we are not
6 helping the city he is misinformed. Before
7 he speaks, he should get the facts."

8 Well, the facts were we received a
9 letter from the majority commissioners
10 stating that they weren't going to extend
11 the discount period. Mr. Wansack then goes
12 onto say that, you know, they have done
13 other things to try and help the city and I
14 never said that he doesn't care about the
15 city or he is not trying to help the city.
16 I don't think -- I'd have to look back in
17 the minutes, but I don't think I mentioned
18 any of the commissioners even by name. All
19 I said was I was very frustrated that the
20 commissioners didn't do for us what the city
21 did and the school district did for them
22 with taxes going up on all levels of the
23 government. People need a little bit of
24 help, especially the senior citizens in the
25 community.

1 So I am -- I was upset about the
2 article just that it's, you know, it seems
3 that the commissioner thinks that it was a
4 personal thing and it's not. I'm just
5 trying to help the people of this city pay
6 their taxes.

7 A bright spot on this same issue is
8 I believe we all received this letter today,
9 this came from Patrick O'Malley, who is also
10 a county commissioner, and it says, "Dear
11 Pat, as a Lackawanna County Commissioner,
12 Scranton resident and taxpayer I'm speaking
13 on my own behalf. The City of Scranton
14 requested Lackawanna County to extend the
15 first discount period from February 28,
16 2013, to March 2, 2013. This is the same
17 option that the City of Scranton and the
18 Scranton School District extended to the
19 county in 2012.

20 It's my view that this option should
21 be granted to the city. I believe this
22 extension will try to reduce the financial
23 restraints the city dealing with and the
24 potential financial hardships that are being
25 placed on the taxpayers.

1 We are always talking about
2 intergovernmental cooperation. I believe
3 this would be a big first step in helping
4 our city on the road to recovery."

5 And he also goes onto say that if
6 there is anything he could do for us not to
7 hesitate to contact him, and I do appreciate
8 that and so we have heard from two of the
9 commissioners and I'm hoping that maybe
10 Mr. O'Brien will come up to the table and
11 step up and say, you know, I agree with
12 Commissioner O'Malley on this one and help
13 out the city residents, and not only the
14 city residents, but also help with the
15 county portion of the tax bill to the city.

16 All three entities are raising taxes
17 this year, unfortunately. Now, I opposed a
18 lot of what was going on and the idea of
19 extending the discount period really will
20 help a lot of people and, like I said
21 before, it's mostly seniors that are on
22 fixed incomes that have their -- lucky to
23 have their homes paid off in their life, so
24 I hope that there is some movement on that
25 and it is good to hear from Commissioner

1 O'Malley and we certainly thank him for
2 that.

3 Another article in the newspaper
4 that I'll comment very briefly on, the mayor
5 stated in the Saturday article, the Saturday
6 political article, that he conducted a
7 political poll that blamed city council for
8 most of the issues that were going on in the
9 city. I would challenge the mayor to
10 release the results of those polls, number
11 one; and number two, I would also hope that
12 since the mayor, assuming his political
13 action committee paid for it, that that
14 politics would be listed on his campaign
15 finance report if it has to be reported at
16 the end of this year. If not, it would be a
17 violation of election laws.

18 So I challenge the mayor to release
19 the results of that poll and anyone can say
20 that a poll has been commissioned, but we
21 would like to see the results, because I
22 know myself and many of my colleagues in
23 speaking to numerous residents whenever a
24 poll is conducted you hear about it because
25 you are calling thousands of residents in

1 the City of Scranton and Scranton is a
2 tight-knit community, so whenever there is
3 one people hear about it.

4 Next onto a couple of agenda items,
5 Item 5-B, I will vote to introduce this
6 legislation tonight, I'm hoping to hold a
7 public caucus or some informative session on
8 this.

9 MS. EVANS: I'm going to address
10 that under motions, but I agree with you.

11 MR. ROGAN: And again, you know,
12 there is -- and I think Mr. Sbaraglia
13 touched on this also that, you know, for
14 myself I want to look at the benefits of the
15 refinancing first, you know, the cost of the
16 additional benefit for refinancing at a rate
17 that's really going to make a difference and
18 save us some money I think we should do it.
19 If not, I think we shouldn't. So I
20 definitely want some more information on
21 that, but I will vote to introduce it.

22 As I stated last week, many of the
23 issues setting the tax rates, except for the
24 one that Mr. Joyce stated I believe cannot
25 be changed I will oppose. I do think that

1 should be done for the budgetary process.

2 And I will address -- well, I might
3 as well just do it now. I echo what
4 Mr. McGoff said about our new appointee,
5 assuming the votes go the way I think they
6 will, Mary Ann Wardell, to the zoning board.
7 I have known her since I have gotten
8 involved in local politics and she is always
9 very insightful. She has been very
10 dedicated to the city, has run for council,
11 coming to council meetings and I definitely
12 think she will be an asset to that board.

13 And finally on the issue regarding
14 the liquor permit. Now, at the end of the
15 day when we have to make these decisions we
16 always have to look at the benefit to the
17 community or what it would do to hurt the
18 community. Now, from the residents I have
19 talked to, and I know some other council
20 members have, they oppose it. I am hopeful
21 that if it does pass that you do do what you
22 say you did, you know, you are going to do
23 it, it's not going to become a six-pack
24 store, and I believe that is not your
25 intent, but what the residents and myself

1 can foresee is a situation where if your
2 original vision doesn't work for your
3 business, obviously you are going to have
4 create revenue somehow and a six-pack store
5 would be perfectly legal under this permit,
6 so I will be opposing that.

7 And just to add on, the one thing
8 this city does not have a lack of is places
9 to purchase alcohol. You could go down to
10 almost any block in the city and there would
11 be either a corner bar a six-pack store or
12 beer distributor, and there are all
13 different type of permits, but that being
14 said I will be voting "no", as I stated last
15 week, on that legislation. And that is all
16 for tonight. Thank you.

17 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,
18 Councilman Loscombe, do you have any
19 comments or motions tonight?

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. I'll make some
21 comments on our legislation when it comes
22 up, but just briefly, I received a letter
23 that they asked me to read from the Keyser
24 Valley Citizens Association, 101 North
25 Keyser Avenue, and this was addressed to

1 Chief Davis, City of Scranton, on November
2 8.

3 "Dear Fire Chief Davis, thank you
4 for attending our West Side fire safety
5 meeting on October 17 sponsored by the
6 Keyser Valley Citizens Association. It was
7 unfortunate that Mayor Doherty did not also
8 attend. As you know, a follow-up meeting
9 was scheduled that evening and will be held
10 on Wednesday, November 14, again, at the
11 Keyser Valley Community Center at 7:00 p.m.

12 As you know, residents of West
13 Scranton are very concerned about the 82
14 percent recent closure rate of its only
15 firehouse at 1917 Luzerne Street for the
16 months of July, August and September 2012.
17 Not only is this quite alarming, West
18 Scranton residents feel this rate of
19 brownouts is irresponsible and dangerous on
20 the part of the City of Scranton.

21 We again invite you and Mayor
22 Doherty to attend our follow-up meeting on
23 November 14 to discuss and review activity
24 at our Luzerne Street firehouse since
25 October 17 and into its future. All we can

1 ask is that the West Scranton residents get
2 no less fire protection from its Luzerne
3 Street firehouse than any other section of
4 the city. Anything less is unacceptable and
5 considered a liability issue for the city by
6 the residents of West Scranton.

7 Respectfully yours, Gary DiBileo,
8 president."

9 And just to add to this, we had some
10 discussion this evening with the bridge
11 closings downtown Engine 10 coming from the
12 mountain, previously if there was something
13 in the Petersburg area would have to come
14 all the way down Moosic Street and go back
15 up Mulberry and over because they are not
16 allowed -- the weight restrictions on the
17 Harrison Avenue bridge prevent us from
18 running any fire trucks over that at this
19 time. Now we have the Spruce Street complex
20 closed. It's pretty much a logistical
21 nightmare responding to certain areas of the
22 city and with Engine 7 being out in West
23 Scranton a lot of times Engine 7 responds
24 over to that side of town.

25 So we do have some major issues here

1 with the closure of the firehouse on Main
2 Avenue and the closure of the firehouse on
3 Luzerne Street and another speaker mentioned
4 brownouts of Engine 4 which is right here at
5 fire headquarters, the engine company that
6 protects the downtown, so there is a number
7 of issues.

8 And again, more and more residents
9 are getting up in arms and like the letter
10 said the chief was at this meeting, he
11 answered a lot of questions, he did assure
12 them that he would be opening Engine 7, but
13 I don't believe that's happened yet. After
14 that meeting they actually had the news
15 media from Channel 28 actually did a tour of
16 the station on Main Avenue Engine 9 Engine 7
17 and some issues were resolved by the city.
18 It's still a work in progress and they also
19 did air quality tests that due to scheduling
20 conflicts this week on my part I haven't
21 been able to ascertain whether those reports
22 have come back yet and were able to open
23 those stations to the employees or the
24 public at this time, but we will be
25 following up with that.

1 I will be at this meeting next week
 2 and hopefully more residents will come out,
 3 and this is not just a West Side issue.
 4 Even though it's in West Side and it's
 5 Keyser Valley, it is a citywide issue
 6 because the more fire stations that are
 7 closed in the city the less chance your
 8 station in your neighborhood stands to be
 9 there. They may be responding to the other
 10 parts of town, taking them away for longer
 11 periods from your neighborhood, so this is
 12 an issue that affects every part of the
 13 city.

14 Everyone should be there to ask
 15 questions and voice their opinion and get
 16 the correct information, so everyone is
 17 welcome, not just the Keyser Valley
 18 residents to the Keyser Valley Community
 19 Center next Wednesday night, that's November
 20 14th at 7:00 p.m. and hopefully the mayor
 21 will also appear and will be able to resolve
 22 some issues.

23 And personally I think one of the
 24 biggest issues is the return of the federal
 25 SAFER money of \$3 1/2 million that would

1 have maintained these stations for the next
 2 two years. Now, people say what happens in
 3 two years? Well, we'll cross that bridge
 4 when we get to it, but we had a gift handed
 5 to us to protect us that was handed back.
 6 It me that's irresponsible and someone has
 7 to answer for that it there is a tragedy.
 8 But, you know, come next Wednesday ask the
 9 questions and hopefully get some answers.
 10 And that's all I have at this time.

11 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Councilman
 12 Loscombe. Councilman Joyce, do you have any
 13 comments or motions at this time?

14 MR. JOYCE: Yes, briefly. I just
 15 wanted to congratulate all of the candidates
 16 who recently ran for election and I know
 17 running for election myself it's a very long
 18 process and all of the candidates, whether
 19 they won or they lost, deserve to be
 20 congratulated for their efforts.

21 To begin tonight I'm going to
 22 address the Single Tax Office. Scranton
 23 City Council has received notification
 24 regarding the amount of funds collected and
 25 distributed as of October 31 for all of the

1 taxes that are collected by the office. To
 2 inform, the taxes collected by the Single
 3 Tax Office are current real estate taxes,
 4 delinquent real estate taxes from 2011 only,
 5 earned income taxes from the last quarter of
 6 2011 as earned income taxes for this year,
 7 of course, are collected by Berkheimer, the
 8 local service tax, the business privilege
 9 tax, and the mercantile. Collection and
 10 distribution of these taxes are as follows:

11 For the current real estate tax
 12 revenue the Single Tax Office has collected
 13 and distributed \$12,032,819.31 as of October
 14 31. During the same period last year, the
 15 Single Tax Office collected and distributed
 16 \$11,197,165.34. This is an overall increase
 17 of \$835,653.79 which is a 7.5 percent
 18 increase in revenue collected and
 19 distributed.

20 For delinquent real estate tax
 21 collections, the Single Tax Office had
 22 collected and distributed \$490,579.10 as of
 23 October 31. During the same period last
 24 year, the Single Tax office collected and
 25 distributed \$582,436.52. This is an overall

1 decrease of \$91,857.42 which is a 15.8
 2 percent decrease in revenue collected and
 3 distributed.

4 For the local service tax, the
 5 Single Tax Office had collected and
 6 distributed \$1,178,397.63 as of October 31.
 7 During the same period last year, the Single
 8 Tax Office collected and distributed
 9 \$1,400,330.63, which is an overall decrease
 10 of \$221,933.00 which is a 15.8 percent
 11 decrease in revenue collected and
 12 distributed.

13 For the combination of the business
 14 privilege and mercantile taxes, the Single
 15 Tax Office had collected and distributed
 16 \$1,776,331.98 as of October 31. During the
 17 same period last year, the Single Tax office
 18 collected and distributed \$1,568,785.06.
 19 This is an overall increase of \$207,546.92
 20 which is a 13.2 percent increase in revenue
 21 collected and distributed.

22 Secondly tonight, I'm going to
 23 address the collection of the delinquent
 24 taxes by Northeast Revenue. As one knows,
 25 Northeast Revenue collects all delinquent

1 real estate taxes with the exception of 2011
2 delinquent real taxes which are collected by
3 the Single Tax Office, as I previously
4 mentioned.

5 For delinquent real estate tax
6 collection, excluding 2011, Northeast
7 Revenue collected and distributed
8 \$100,511,52 to the City of Scranton for the
9 period ending on October 31. Within these
10 collections, the years 2004, 2005 and 2006
11 are included. Previously 2004, 2005 and
12 2006 delinquent tax collections were sent
13 directly to Pennstar Bank to pay for a loan
14 that the Scranton Redevelopment Authority
15 previously defaulted on regarding the
16 advance sale of delinquent taxes.

17 I have been informed that the
18 remaining balance on the loan owed to
19 Pennstar Bank is now paid off. Therefore,
20 all remaining delinquent tax collections
21 from now on will be distributed directly to
22 the city.

23 Third tonight, regarding the status
24 of the audit we have received an update from
25 Rossi & Rossi regarding the audit status.

1 In Rossi & Rossi's January 26 letter, they
2 had stated that in order to issue the
3 December 31, 2011, audited financial
4 statements by May 31st of 2012, the outline
5 of the 2011 audit timeframe must be adhered
6 to, which it was not.

7 Because the timetable had not been
8 adhered to and because other matters in the
9 BA's Office have taken priority over getting
10 the necessary information to Rossi & Rossi,
11 the completion of the audited financial
12 statements has been delayed. As of October
13 31, the actual actuarial calculation on the
14 GASBE 45 post-employment benefits that was
15 to be provided by March 31 was not yet
16 received.

17 After receipt of this information
18 and audit testing is completed, and assuming
19 that the information does not require any
20 further follow-up, Rossi & Rossi will issue
21 completed financial statements and present a
22 draft of the full financial statements for
23 review. From that point, the management and
24 discussion analysis section of the audit
25 report will need to be completed.

1 In addition, attorney letters have
2 been sent and Rossi & Rossi requests that
3 they respond with an effective date of
4 November 15. Once Rossi & Rossi receives
5 the remaining information that is overdue,
6 along with the attorneys' responses to the
7 audit requests letters, the required city's
8 management and discussion analytical and
9 financial statement and the city's
10 representation letter an exit conference
11 will be held and the audit will be
12 completed.

13 Fourth tonight, I wanted to briefly
14 discuss the 2013 operating budgets. As
15 everyone knows 2013 is fast approaching and
16 the budget for 2013 as required by the Home
17 Rule Charter shall be sent to council by
18 November 15. In crafting the budget this
19 year accordingly the budget should follow
20 suit with the recovery plan, however, it's
21 not as easy as it seems. There are many
22 important issues to be discussed and we, as
23 a city, have many challenges.

24 One of the largest challenges
25 is funding the Supreme Court award that was

1 ruled in the fire and police unions favor.
2 This will be a cost of approximately \$17 1/2
3 million dollars to the city.

4 Secondly, we have a rising pension
5 costs as the minimum municipal obligation
6 for funding pensions is increasing by \$5.1
7 million this year.

8 Third, we must address the Scranton
9 Parking Authority, which in the recent year
10 has taken a toll on city finances.

11 As a council member, my role is
12 simply more than just voting on agenda items
13 as they come by. There is hard work to be
14 done. Knowing this, I am meeting with our
15 business administrator, Ryan McGowan, to
16 discuss the budget tomorrow. In addition, I
17 am meeting with Ryan McGowan and Mayor
18 Doherty over the holiday to discuss the
19 budget further. Once the budget is
20 complete, I am going to ask the
21 administration to appear at council to
22 present the budget to the public.

23 Tonight I'm making a challenge to my
24 colleagues to come with me to meet with the
25 mayor and business administrator or meet

1 them personally by themselves to discuss the
2 budget. We must show unity to form the
3 budget and that includes every one of us.
4 We owe it to the people of Scranton to
5 minimize the tax increase the best way that
6 we can.

7 And finally tonight, I will comment
8 about Big House Tobacco receiving the
9 transfer of the liquor license. I was on
10 the fence with this issue as some of my
11 colleagues shared a concern that I had as
12 well that this may be a six-pack store.
13 However, after hearing their presentation
14 tonight, after viewing the photos of the
15 establishment and after hearing everything
16 that they had to say, I don't believe that
17 this will be a six-pack store and I do have
18 to believe that this is a well-kept
19 establishment and will be a good business
20 and a good neighbor to the City of Scranton
21 and its residents. And that's all.

22 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Good
23 evening. I wish to begin by thanking
24 Harrison House Personal Care Home for it's
25 \$500 voluntary payment in lieu of taxes to

1 the City of Scranton. Perhaps other
2 nonprofits will follow the example set by
3 Harrison House and become good neighbors to
4 our city and its taxpayers.

5 On Monday, November 5, city council
6 office received a proposed ordinance drafted
7 by City Solicitor Kelly for implementation
8 of an amusement tax. It is extremely
9 important that Solicitor Hughes and all
10 council members review this ordinance and
11 submit any revisions or amendments to
12 Attorney Kelly on or before Monday, November
13 12. The administration hopes to have this
14 legislation included on the November 15
15 council agenda.

16 Mrs. Krake, please send a memo to
17 Attorney Kelly tomorrow morning asking for
18 more specific identification of the
19 amusement section on page one of the
20 ordinance. For example, I cannot determine
21 if he intends that high school athletic
22 games, church fundraisers and cancer
23 fundraisers be taxed. The current language
24 is very general and could lead one to
25 believe that such events would, indeed, be

1 taxed. Thus, there is need for more
2 specific language or definition.

3 Also, if any council member has
4 suggestions and is interested in developing
5 the 2013 budget he must contact Business
6 Administrator Ryan McGowan and schedule
7 meetings with him and Council Finance Chair
8 Frank Joyce as soon as possible. Councilman
9 Joyce and I just received preliminary drafts
10 of the budget in the last few days and
11 because the administration and council want
12 to work jointly to produce a final draft, we
13 have already scheduled budget meetings. We
14 urge all council members to do the same.

15 In compliance with the Home Rule
16 Charter, the 2013 proposed budget will be
17 submitted to the public and council by
18 November 15. Since the following Thursday,
19 November 22, marks Thanksgiving, the budget
20 will be placed into Fifth Order for
21 introduction on Thursday, November 29.

22 Included on tonight's agenda in
23 Fifth Order for introduction are two pieces
24 of legislation, Items 5-B and C pertaining
25 to the second unfunded debt borrowing for

1 2012 which was recently approved by the
2 Court. The administration submitted both in
3 the form of emergency legislation, but
4 council will vote only on introduction this
5 evening since merely the titles of the
6 ordinances rather than the ordinances
7 themselves were provided to city council and
8 it's solicitor prior to Wednesday, November
9 7, deadline for publically posting tonight's
10 agenda.

11 Consequently, Solicitor Hughes did
12 not have the final documents to review and
13 represent to council. As a result, the
14 legislation may proceed to Sixth Order
15 during the November 15 meeting and at this
16 time council may suspend it's rules to place
17 both ordinances into Seventh Order for final
18 approval and adoption.

19 In addition, I will ask Council
20 Solicitor Hughes to explain the legislation
21 publically and respond to any council
22 members questions at next week's meeting.
23 Further, council members may contact
24 Attorney Hughes regarding any questions or
25 concerns prior to the November 15 council

1 meeting, and I would ask each council member
 2 to keep in mind that we will be asking
 3 Attorney Hughes to present the details of
 4 this second unfunded debt legislation and
 5 refinancing the bond series, and so I would
 6 ask that we either keep our comments to a
 7 minimum next week or defer our time to
 8 Attorney Hughes for his presentation.

9 Also, on our agenda this evening is
 10 a resolution to appoint Mrs. Mary Ann
 11 Wardell to the zoning board to fulfill the
 12 unexpired term of the late James Williams,
 13 Senior. Council members are in agreement
 14 with our honorable colleague Councilman
 15 McGoff's selection of Mrs. Wardell and we
 16 thank all of those individuals who submitted
 17 letters of interest.

18 Mrs. Krake, please send thank you
 19 letters to all of applicants as soon as
 20 possible and invite each of them to reapply
 21 in June 2013 when city council will make
 22 appointments to permanent seats of the
 23 zoning board.

24 Next, I spoke with both
 25 Commissioners O'Brien and Tax Collector Bill

1 Courtright in the last week regarding the
 2 city's request for an extension of the
 3 discount period for payment of 2013 real
 4 estate taxes. Unfortunately, Commissioner
 5 O'Brien does not believe the county can
 6 agree to the extension because doing so
 7 would lead to the inability to make payroll
 8 in March 2013, particularly in light of the
 9 fact that the county 2013 tax anticipation
 10 note will merely fund the months of January
 11 and February according to Mr. Durkin.

12 Mr. Courtright stated that he would
 13 direct his solicitor to determine legally
 14 whether or not the Single Tax Office can
 15 provide an extension for the city and
 16 Mr. Courtright will contact me when the
 17 determination is made.

18 Finally, acting police chief Carl
 19 Graziano responded to the citizens complaint
 20 of the speeding in the 300 and 400 blocks of
 21 Cedar Avenue and I would like to read from
 22 his correspondence.

23 "These two blocks are not currently
 24 legally posted to issue traffic citations
 25 for speeding. However, DPW has been

1 contacted to properly post these locations.
 2 These two blocks are already some of the
 3 most frequently patrolled areas in the city.
 4 The patrol division has been advised of the
 5 speeding complaints there and once the signs
 6 are in place they can issue speeding
 7 citations."

8 City council thanks Chief Graziano
 9 for his timely response to this problem.

10 In addition, Mrs. Krake, please send
 11 a letter to the police chief regarding daily
 12 truck traffic in the Bellevue section of
 13 Scranton, which is a mine cave-in area.
 14 Residents report that truck traffic has
 15 continued for well over a decade despite the
 16 adoption of the ordinance in the 1990's
 17 prohibiting this. Trucks often pass police
 18 cars and are not stopped and cited according
 19 to the homeowners. Council requests that
 20 Chief Graziano would review the ordinance
 21 and recommend any changes that he deems
 22 appropriate, if necessary in order that the
 23 police department can enforce the law, cite
 24 truckers and prevent this daily problem.

25 And that's it.

1 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. AN ORDINANCE OF
 2 THE CITY OF SCRANTON, LACKAWANNA COUNTY,
 3 PENNSYLVANIA, SETTING FORTH ITS INTENT TO
 4 ISSUE ONE OR MORE SERIES OF FEDERALLY
 5 TAXABLE AND/OR TAX EXEMPT GENERAL OBLIGATION
 6 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY IN AN AGGREGATE
 7 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY
 8 MILLION NINE HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS
 9 (\$20,910,000) (COLLECTIVELY, THE "BONDS")
 10 PURSUANT TO THE ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 11 OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, PA.C.S.
 12 53, CHAPTERS 80-82, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AS THE
 13 LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT (THE "ACT");
 14 FINDING THAT A PRIVATE SALE BY NEGOTIATION
 15 IS IN THE BEST FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF THE
 16 CITY; DETERMINING THAT SUCH BONDS SHALL
 17 EVIDENCE NONELECTORAL DEBT OF THE CITY;
 18 SPECIFYING THAT SUCH INDEBTEDNESS TO BE
 19 INCURRED TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR A CERTAIN
 20 PROJECT OF THE CITY CONSISTING OF ALL OR ANY
 21 OF THE FOLLOWING: (1) FUNDING UNFUNDED DEBT
 22 OF THE CITY; (2) REFUNDING A PORTION OF THE
 23 CITY'S OUTSTANDING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS,
 24 SERIES A OF 2003; (3) REFUNDING A PORTION OF
 25 THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING GENERAL OBLIGATION

1 BONDS, SERIES B OF 2003; (4) REFUNDING A
 2 PORTION OF THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING FEDERALLY
 3 TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION PENSION FUNDING
 4 BONDS, SERIES C OF 2003; (5) REFUNDING A
 5 PORTION OF THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING FEDERALLY
 6 TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES D
 7 OF 2003; AND (6) FUNDING NECESSARY RESERVES
 8 AND PAYING THE COSTS AND EXPENSES OF
 9 ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; SETTING FORTH THE
 10 REASONABLE ESTIMATED USEFUL LIVES OF THE
 11 CAPITAL PROJECTS THAT ARE TO BE FINANCED AND
 12 REFINANCED BY THE BONDS; ACCEPTING A
 13 PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OR ARRANGEMENT OF
 14 THE PRIVATE PLACEMENT OF SUCH BONDS AT
 15 PRIVATE SALE BY NEGOTIATION TO FINANCIAL
 16 INSTITUTIONS, QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL
 17 BUYERS AND/OR ACCREDITED INVESTORS;
 18 PROVIDING THAT SUCH BONDS, WHEN ISSUED,
 19 SHALL CONSTITUTE A GENERAL OBLIGATION OF THE
 20 CITY; FIXING THE DENOMINATIONS, SERIES
 21 DESIGNATIONS, DATED DATE, INTEREST PAYMENT
 22 DATES, MATURITY DATES, INTEREST RATES,
 23 REDEMPTION PROVISIONS, OPTIONAL AND
 24 MANDATORY REDEMPTION PROVISIONS (IF
 25 APPLICABLE) AND PLACE OF PAYMENT OF THE

1 PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON SUCH BONDS;
 2 AUTHORIZING SPECIFIED OFFICERS OF THE CITY
 3 TO CONTRACT WITH THE PAYING AGENT FOR ITS
 4 SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE BONDS;
 5 SETTING FORTH THE SUBSTANTIAL FORM OF THE
 6 BONDS EVIDENCING THE DEBT; AUTHORIZING
 7 EXECUTION AND ATTESTATION OF SUCH BONDS;
 8 PROVIDING COVENANTS RELATED TO DEBT SERVICE
 9 APPLICABLE TO SUCH BONDS TO THE EXTENT
 10 REQUIRED BY THE ACT AND PLEDGING THE FULL
 11 FAITH, CREDIT AND TAXING POWER OF THE CITY
 12 IN SUPPORT THEREOF; CREATING A SINKING FUND
 13 FOR EACH SERIES OF BONDS IN CONNECTION WITH
 14 SUCH SERIES OF BONDS, TO THE EXTENT REQUIRED
 15 BY THE ACT; DESIGNATING THE PAYING AGENT TO
 16 BE THE SINKING FUND DEPOSITARY; PROVIDING A
 17 COVENANT TO INSURE PROMPT AND FULL PAYMENT
 18 FOR SUCH BONDS WHEN DUE; SETTING FORTH
 19 REGISTRATION AND TRANSFER PROVISIONS WITH
 20 RESPECT TO SUCH BONDS; AUTHORIZING THE
 21 EXECUTION OF ONE OR MORE INVESTMENT
 22 AGREEMENTS BY SPECIFIED OFFICERS OF THE CITY
 23 (IF APPLICABLE) AND THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN
 24 U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS OR ANY OTHER
 25 SECURITIES OR INVESTMENTS IN CONNECTION

1 WITH THE PROJECT AND THE REFUNDING OF THE
 2 PRIOR BONDS; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING
 3 SPECIFIED OFFICERS OF THE CITY TO DO, TO
 4 TAKE AND TO PERFORM CERTAIN SPECIFIED,
 5 REQUIRED, NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE ACTS TO
 6 EFFECT THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS, INCLUDING,
 7 WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE PREPARATION OF A
 8 DEBT STATEMENT AND BORROWING BASE
 9 CERTIFICATE, AND THE FILING OF SPECIFIED
 10 DOCUMENTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
 11 AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ALL AS REQUIRED BY
 12 THE ACT; DECLARING THAT THE DEBT TO BE
 13 EVIDENCED BY SUCH BONDS, TOGETHER WITH ALL
 14 OTHER INDEBTEDNESS OF THE CITY, WILL NOT BE
 15 IN EXCESS OF ANY APPLICABLE LIMITATION
 16 IMPOSED BY THE ACT; AUTHORIZING PROPER
 17 OFFICERS OF THE CITY TO DELIVER THE BONDS
 18 UPON THE APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
 19 COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; IF
 20 APPLICABLE, SETTING FORTH CERTAIN COVENANTS
 21 PRECLUDING THE CITY FROM TAKING ACTIONS
 22 WHICH WOULD CAUSE THE BONDS TO BECOME
 23 "ARBITRAGE BONDS" OR "PRIVATE ACTIVITY
 24 BONDS," AS THOSE TERMS ARE USED IN THE
 25 INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED

1 (THE "CODE"), AND APPLICABLE REGULATIONS
 2 PROMULGATED THEREUNDER; AUTHORIZING THE
 3 EXECUTION OF A CONTINUING DISCLOSURE
 4 CERTIFICATE AND COVENANTING TO COMPLY WITH
 5 THE PROVISIONS THEREOF, IF APPLICABLE;
 6 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ONE OR MORE
 7 ESCROW AGREEMENTS BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY
 8 AND THE ESCROW AGENT NAMED THEREIN IN
 9 CONNECTION WITH THE REFUNDING OF THE PRIOR
 10 BONDS; APPROVING THE FORM OF AND RATIFYING
 11 THE PREPARATION, USE AND DISTRIBUTION OF A
 12 PRELIMINARY PLACEMENT MEMORANDUM AND A
 13 PLACEMENT MEMORANDUM BY THE PURCHASER OR
 14 PLACEMENT AGENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE
 15 MARKETING OF THE BONDS; AUTHORIZING AND
 16 DIRECTING THE PREPARATION, EXECUTION AND
 17 DELIVERY OF ALL OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AND
 18 THE TAKING OF ALL OTHER REQUIRED ACTION;
 19 PROVIDING WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME
 20 EFFECTIVE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF
 21 PROVISIONS; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR
 22 PARTS OF ORDINANCES INSOFAR AS THE SAME
 23 SHALL BE INCONSISTENT HERewith.
 24 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
 25 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be

1 introduced into its proper committee.
 2 MR. ROGAN: So moved.
 3 MR. JOYCE: Second.
 4 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
 5 those in favor of introduction signify by
 6 saying aye.
 7 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
 8 MR. ROGAN: Aye.
 9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
 10 MR. JOYCE: Aye.
 11 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
 12 have it and so moved.
 13 MS. KRAKE: Attorney Hughes has
 14 kindly offered to read this next week for
 15 me.
 16 MR. HUGHES: I was going to read it
 17 tonight, but I forgot.
 18 MS. KRAKE: 5-C. AUTHORIZING THE
 19 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
 20 TO LEVY A REAL ESTATE TAX MILLAGE INCREASE
 21 FOR A PERIOD OF (10) YEARS DEDICATED TO
 22 RETIRING THE UNFUNDED DEBT INCURRED IN
 23 CALENDAR YEAR 2012 IN THE AMOUNT OF NINE
 24 MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS
 25 (\$9,750,000.00) AND DIRECTING THE CITY

1 TREASURER TO SEPARATE THE PROPER PORTION OF
 2 THE REAL ESTATE TAXES RECEIVED FROM THE
 3 SINGLE TAX OFFICE DURING SUCH TEN (10)
 4 YEAR PERIOD AND FORWARD SAME TO A SEPARATE
 5 ACCOUNT TO SERVICE AND RETIRE THE UNFUNDED
 6 DEBT.
 7 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
 8 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
 9 introduced into its proper committee.
 10 MR. MCGOFF: So moved.
 11 MR. JOYCE: Second.
 12 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
 13 those in favor of introduction signify by
 14 saying aye.
 15 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
 16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
 17 MR. JOYCE: Aye.
 18 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?
 19 MR. ROGAN: No.
 20 MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
 21 moved.
 22 MS. KRAKE: 5-D. ACCEPTING A SEVEN
 23 HUNDRED FIFTY (\$750.00) DOLLAR DONATION FROM
 24 SANOFI PASTEUR PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF
 25 SCRANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT.

1 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
 2 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be
 3 introduced into its proper committee.
 4 MR. ROGAN: So moved.
 5 MR. JOYCE: Second.
 6 MS. EVANS: On the question?
 7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, on the question,
 8 I would like to thank is Sanofi-Pasteur for
 9 their continued donations to the police and
 10 fire departments in the city. Thank you.
 11 MS. EVANS: Anyone else? All those
 12 in favor of introduction signify by saying
 13 aye.
 14 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
 15 MR. ROGAN: Aye.
 16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
 17 MR. JOYCE: Aye.
 18 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
 19 have it and so moved.
 20 MS. KRAKE: 5-E. APPOINTING MARY
 21 ANN WARDELL, 629 DEPOT STREET, SCRANTON,
 22 PENNSYLVANIA, 18509, AS A MEMBER OF THE
 23 ZONING APPEALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON.
 24 MRS. WARDELL WILL FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF
 25 JIM WILLIAMS, WHO PASSED AWAY ON SEPTEMBER

1 29, 2012. MRS. WARDELL'S TERM WILL EXPIRE
 2 ON JULY 1, 2013.
 3 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
 4 entertain a motion that Item 5-E be
 5 introduced into its proper committee.
 6 MR. ROGAN: So moved.
 7 MR. JOYCE: Second.
 8 MS. EVANS: On the question?
 9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, just on the
 10 question, I was the only had one that hadn't
 11 spoken on Mrs. Wardell, I echo my colleagues
 12 on their comments, Mrs. Wardell has been
 13 involved in city issues for many years. She
 14 stayed active at meetings and up-to-date on
 15 a lot of, like I said, the issues that have
 16 been going on. We had several candidates
 17 provide us with their letter of interest and
 18 I know it was a tough choice, but hopefully,
 19 as Mrs. Evans stated, that they will reapply
 20 for the next opening as they are all good
 21 qualified candidates that were on that list,
 22 but I would like to say I support
 23 Mrs. Wardell.
 24 MR. JOYCE: Likewise.
 25 MS. EVANS: Anyone else? All those

1 in favor of introduction signify by saying
 2 aye.
 3 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
 4 MR. ROGAN: Aye.
 5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
 6 MR. JOYCE: Aye.
 7 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
 8 have it and so moved.
 9 MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.
 10 READING BY TITLE – FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 65,
 11 2012 – AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE
 12 COUNCIL NO. 6, 1976 ENTITLED " AN ORDINANCE
 13 (AS AMENDED) IMPOSING A TAX FOR GENERAL
 14 REVENUE PURPOSES ON THE TRANSFER OF REAL
 15 PROPERTY SITUATE WITHIN THE CITY OF
 16 SCRANTON; PRESCRIBING AND REGULATING THE
 17 METHOD OF EVIDENCING THE PAYMENT OF SUCH
 18 TAX; CONFERRING POWERS AND IMPOSING DUTIES
 19 UPON CERTAIN PERSONS, AND PROVIDING
 20 PENALTIES", BY IMPOSING THE RATE OF
 21 THE REALTY TRANSFER TAX AT TWO AND NINE
 22 TENTHS PERCENT (2.9%) FOR CALENDAR YEAR
 23 2013.
 24 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
 25 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

1 MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-A
 2 pass reading by title.
 3 MR. MCGOFF: Second.
 4 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
 5 those in favor signify by saying aye.
 6 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
 7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
 8 MR. JOYCE: Aye.
 9 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?
 10 MR. ROGAN: No.
 11 MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
 12 moved.
 13 MS. KRAKE: 6-B. READING BY TITLE –
 14 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 66, 2012 – AN ORDINANCE
 15 - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 7, 1976,
 16 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED) IMPOSING
 17 A MERCANTILE LICENSE TAX OF TWO MILLS FOR
 18 THE YEAR 1976 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER UPON
 19 PERSONS ENGAGING IN CERTAIN OCCUPATIONS AND
 20 BUSINESSES THEREIN; PROVIDING FOR ITS LEVY
 21 AND COLLECTION AND FOR THE ISSUANCE OF
 22 MERCANTILE LICENSES; CONFERRING AND IMPOSING
 23 POWERS AND DUTIES UPON THE TAX COLLECTOR OF
 24 THE CITY OF SCRANTON; AND IMPOSING
 25 PENALTIES", BY IMPOSING THE MERCANTILE

1 LICENSE TAX AT ONE (1) MILL (.001) FOR
 2 CALENDAR YEAR 2013.
 3 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
 4 title of Item 6-B, what is your pleasure?
 5 MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-B
 6 pass reading by title.
 7 MR. MCGOFF: Second.
 8 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
 9 those in favor signify by saying aye.
 10 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
 11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
 12 MR. JOYCE: Aye.
 13 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?
 14 MR. ROGAN: No.
 15 MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
 16 moved.
 17 MS. KRAKE: 6-C. READING BY TITLE –
 18 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 67, 2012 – AN ORDINANCE
 19 - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 8, 1976,
 20 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED)
 21 PROVIDING FOR THE GENERAL REVENUE BY
 22 IMPOSING A TAX AT THE RATE OF TWO (2) MILLS
 23 UPON THE PRIVILEGE OF OPERATING OR
 24 CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON
 25 AS MEASURED BY THE GROSS RECEIPTS THEREFROM;

1 REQUIRING REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT OF THE
 2 TAX AS CONDITION TO THE CONDUCTING OF SUCH
 3 BUSINESS; PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY AND
 4 COLLECTION OF SUCH TAX; PRESCRIBING SUCH
 5 REQUIREMENTS FOR RETURNS AND RECORDS;
 6 CONFERRING POWERS AND DUTIES UPON THE TAX
 7 COLLECTOR; AND IMPOSING PENALTIES", BY
 8 IMPOSING THE BUSINESS PRIVILEGE TAX AT THE
 9 RATE OF ONE (1) MILL(.001) FOR CALENDAR YEAR
 10 2013.
 11 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
 12 title of Item 6-C, what is your pleasure?
 13 MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-C
 14 pass reading by title.
 15 MR. MCGOFF: Second.
 16 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
 17 those in favor signify by saying aye.
 18 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.
 19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.
 20 MR. JOYCE: Aye.
 21 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?
 22 MR. ROGAN: No.
 23 MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
 24 moved.
 25 MS. KRAKE: 6-D. READING BY TITLE –

1 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 68, 2012 – AN ORDINANCE
 2 - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 17, 1994
 3 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED)
 4 AUTHORIZING THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY
 5 OF SCRANTON TO ENACT 'A WASTE DISPOSAL AND
 6 COLLECTION FEE' FOR THE PURPOSE OF RAISING
 7 REVENUE TO COVER THE WASTE DISPOSAL AND
 8 COLLECTION COSTS INCURRED BY THE CITY OF
 9 SCRANTON FOR THE DISPOSAL OF REFUSE", BY
 10 IMPOSING A WASTE DISPOSAL AND COLLECTION FEE
 11 OF \$178.00 FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013.

12 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
 13 title of Item 6-D, what is your pleasure?

14 MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-D
 15 pass reading by title.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

17 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
 18 those in favor signify by saying aye.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

21 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

22 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?

23 MR. ROGAN: No.

24 MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
 25 moved.

1 MS. KRAKE: 6-E. READING BY TITLE –
 2 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 69, 2012 – AN ORDINANCE
 3 - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 145 OF
 4 2007 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE RENAMING THE
 5 EMERGENCY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES TAX
 6 ("EMST") TO LOCAL SERVICE TAX ("LST") AND BY
 7 IMPOSING A WITHHOLDING OF \$52.00 FOR THE
 8 CALENDAR YEAR 2013.

9 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
 10 title of Item 6-E, what is your pleasure?

11 MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-E
 12 pass reading by title.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

14 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
 15 those in favor signify by saying aye.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

17 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

19 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

20 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
 21 have it and so moved.

22 MS. KRAKE: 6-F. READING BY TITLE –
 23 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 70, 2012 – AN ORDINANCE
 24 - TO PROHIBIT TRUCK TRAFFIC WITH
 25 CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS OFF LAKE SCRANTON ROAD

1 FROM ROUTE 307 NORTHEASTERLY TO ELMHURST
 2 BOULEVARD IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON, DIRECTING
 3 POSTAGE OF SIGNAGE, AND PRESCRIBING
 4 PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.

5 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
 6 title of Item 6-F, what is your pleasure?

7 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-F
 8 pass reading by title.

9 MR. JOYCE: Second.

10 MS. EVANS: On the question?

11 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. While I am in
 12 favor of this legislation, as I said last
 13 week I think there is a question about

14 construction vehicles doing legitimate work
 15 in that area and I may have been remiss in
 16 following up on that, but I think that there
 17 should be some type of amendment to this to
 18 allow for construction vehicles to use that
 19 area and I think that should be added to the
 20 list of the exemptions.

21 MS. EVANS: Perhaps that amendment
 22 could be drafted by the legal department and
 23 then added at a future time. I think a
 24 great concern for us now is that due to
 25 Hurricane Sandy we are going to see an

1 increase in the amount of material coming
 2 into the landfill and I know that the
 3 residents of the area are very concerned
 4 about that increasing the already
 5 troublesome truck traffic on their streets,
 6 so I will be voting "yes" this evening. Is
 7 there anyone else on the question?

8 All those in favor signify by saying
 9 aye.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

11 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

13 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

14 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
 15 have it and so moved.

16 MR. JOYCE: I make a motion to
 17 suspend the rules to move Item 6-F to
 18 Seventh Order to be considered for final
 19 passage.

20 MR. ROGAN: Second.

21 MS. EVANS: On the question?

22 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, that is what I'm
 23 opposed to, I believe that we have the
 24 opportunity to make an amendment and to put
 25 it into the legislation and to vote on it

1 next week. I know while there may be some
2 urgency, I don't think a week on this
3 legislation makes a difference.

4 MS. EVANS: Anyone else? All those
5 in favor signify by saying aye.

6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

8 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

9 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?

10 MR. MCGOFF: No.

11 MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
12 moved.

13 MS. KRAKE: 7-A. FOR CONSIDERATION -
14 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR
15 ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 70, 2012 - TO
16 PROHIBIT TRUCK TRAFFIC WITH CERTAIN
17 EXEMPTIONS OFF LAKE SCRANTON ROAD FROM ROUTE
18 307 NORTHEASTERLY TO ELMHURST BOULEVARD IN
19 THE CITY OF SCRANTON, DIRECTING POSTAGE OF
20 SIGNAGE, AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR
21 VIOLATION THEREOF.

22 MS. EVANS: What is the
23 recommendation of the Chair for the
24 Committee on Public Safety?

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: As Chairperson for

1 the Committee on Public Safety, I recommend
2 final passage of Item 7-A.

3 MR. ROGAN: Second.

4 MS. EVANS: On the question?

5 MR. MCGOFF: Once again, I wish we
6 had waited one week to do this. I obviously
7 am in favor of the legislation and I will
8 look to amending it in the future. Thank
9 you.

10 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Anyone else?
11 Roll call, please?

12 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

14 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

15 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

16 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

18 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

19 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

20 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

21 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
22 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

23 MR. JOYCE: I make a motion to take
24 File of Council No. 64 - 2012 from the table
25 and place it into Sixth Order for final

1 consideration.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

3 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
4 those in favor signify by saying aye.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

7 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

8 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?

9 MR. ROGAN: No.

10 MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
11 moved.

12 MS. KRAKE: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
13 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
14 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 64, 2012 - APPROVING THE
15 TRANSFER OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE
16 CURRENTLY OWNED BY CALANNI'S INC. T/A LITTLE
17 NIKKI'S PASTA HOUSE, 77 FALLBROOK STREET,
18 CARBONDALE, PA 18407, LICENSE NO. R-14028 TO
19 PASS RUSH LLC FOR USE AT BIG HOUSE TOBACCO
20 OUTLET LOCATED AT 200 GREEN RIDGE STREET,
21 SCRANTON, PA 18509 AS REQUIRED BY THE
22 PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD.

23 MS. EVANS: As Chairperson for the
24 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
25 passage of Item 7-B.

1 MR. ROGAN: Second.

2 MS. EVANS: On the question?

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, on the question
4 I guess I'll make my comment at this point.

5 I sat here and listened to the gentlemen
6 describe the business, I have never been in
7 there, I have been by there many times, he
8 answered every question that we had and no
9 one came to the meeting afterwards in
10 opposition. I did have phone calls
11 regarding it that were neither for nor
12 against. You know, we are looking to build
13 our tax base in the city and to bring
14 business in. This business is already in a
15 heavily business corridor I just, you know,
16 that's something I consider.

17 But I sat here, as I said and I
18 listened, and I believe all honesty he is
19 trying to do the best for this business in
20 this area based on what he has done in the
21 past three years and I take a man for his
22 word. You know, I was swayed at that point
23 when they described what their intention was
24 and I believe him, and especially after
25 seeing the photos of the property and what

1 type of business it currently is, so I will
2 be voting in favor of this business. Thank
3 you.

4 MR. MCGOFF: I'd just like to say I
5 think there is still some uncertainty about
6 the operation and nature of the business and
7 the effect that it will have on the
8 community and I don't believe that those
9 questions were necessarily adequately
10 answered for me.

11 MR. ROGAN: I would echo what
12 Mr. McGoff said. I don't think anyone touts
13 that everything will be done legally, but
14 legally this permit you cannot bring a
15 six-pack store, maybe that's not the intent
16 currently, but it can legally go there if
17 this is approved by city council and at the
18 end of the day I usually try to base my vote
19 on what's best for the community and we all
20 know the residents in this neighborhood and
21 the bulk of them I talked to were against
22 it, so I will be voting "no" and, as I
23 stated before, there is isn't a lack of
24 places to purchase alcohol in the City of
25 Scranton.

1 MS. EVANS: I'll just add quickly to
2 that that surrounding this particular
3 business are bars and beer distributors so
4 if that is the intention of this business I
5 don't know that it would be very successful
6 just, you know, based on those
7 circumstances. The CEO insists that the
8 purpose is not for the sales of six-packs,
9 etcetera, and I do believe that he has
10 established a very productive
11 well-maintained business that has
12 encountered very few if any problems over
13 the past three years.

14 I, too, spoke with some residents
15 and one was concerned about the transfer of
16 the liquor license, the other two basically
17 had no concern. They really didn't care
18 whether the license would be granted or not
19 because they said the business has never
20 been a problem for them and so I would just
21 ask, as I did during the public caucus, that
22 Mr. Fadden would reach out to those in the
23 neighborhood to alleviate their concerns and
24 I will be voting to approve it. Is there
25 anyone else on the question? Roll call,

1 please?

2 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

3 MR. MCGOFF: No.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

5 MR. ROGAN: No.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

9 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

11 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare

12 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

13 If there is no further business,

14 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

15 MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.

16 MS. EVANS: This meeting is

17 adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the same to the best of my ability.

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER